

REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
Quezon City

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Third Regular Session

H.B. No. 10499



Introduced by Representative **CAMILLE A. VILLAR**

AN ACT
CONVERTING THE EXTENSION OFFICE OF THE LAND
TRANSPORTATION OFFICE (LTO) LOCATED IN LAS PIÑAS CITY INTO A
REGULAR LTO DISTRICT OFFICE AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS
THEREFOR

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The City of Las Piñas is a highly-urbanized city with a land area of 32.69 square kilometers or 12.62 square miles. Its population, as determined by the 2020 National Census, was 606,293, representing 4.50 % of the total population of the National Capital Region¹. Based on these figures, the population density is computed at 18,547 inhabitants per square kilometer or 48,042 inhabitants per square mile².

One of the fastest growing communities, the city boasts of residential-commercial locale matched by environmental spaces and cultural heritage sites. Home to the Las Pinas-Paranaque Critical Habitat and Eco-Tourism Area, a protected wetland area hosting a mangrove forest and species, a unique place for nature travel, bird watching and provides a vantage sea view of the Manila Bay. Las Piñas City also boasts of the Bamboo Organ in St. Joseph Parish Church, a 19th-century cultural treasure with the reborn musical pipe providing distinct musical harmony.

The city is a gateway to the Philippine capital, the rest of Metro Manila and Southern Tagalog. Considered as a first-class LGU, its economy is founded on a combination of manufacturing, production, commercial establishments, A1 academic institutions, and home-grown entrepreneurs.

¹ Census of population (2020), National Capital Region (NCR). Total Population by Province, City, Municipality and Barangay, PSA, July 8, 2021

² Ibid, PSA, July 8, 2021

With these as backdrops, this legislation is being pursued. It seeks to convert the Las Piñas Extension Office of Land Transportation Office as a regular or LTO District Office. The offices handle driver's license applications and motor vehicle registration, with the number of daily and total annual transactions, personnel, office's land area and income as determining factors.

The rationale for the conversion in Las Pinas City, are as follows:

1. Transportation is a driver of the economy. Upgrading of services mean development and converting the LTO office from its present Extension status to a regular District Office would mean faster processing of transactions and shorter queues in application and registration.
2. It would ease the difficulties being encountered by owners of motor vehicle owners and drivers. Necessarily, it means safety of the sector.
3. The bill is consistent with the policy enshrined in LTO Memorandum Circular 2020-2200 on:
 - a. Public Service. To serve the greatest number of the people in the transportation sector of the city and its nearby population;
 - b. Integrity of Motor Vehicle Registration and the driving community. Addressing the increasing volume of transactions, streamlining the processes and simplifying the ease of doing business.

This legislation is submitted for approval.


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Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Philippines in Congress assembled:

Section 1. This Act shall be known as an “Act Converting the Las Piñas City Extension Office into a regular district office of the Land Transportation Office (LTO)”.

Sec. 2. The existing Las Piñas City LTO Extension Office is hereby converted into a regular LTO District Office.

Sec. 3. The Secretary of Transportation and Communications shall immediately include in the Department’s programs the operationalization of the Regular LTO District Office in Las Piñas City, the initial funding of which shall be charged against the current year’s appropriations of the Las Piñas City LTO Extension Office. Thereafter, such sums as may be necessary for the continued operation of the Regular LTO District Office shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act.

Sec. 4. This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official Gazette or in two (2) newspapers of general circulation, whichever comes earlier.

Approved,